IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (previously presented), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 2 and 5-11 and ADD claim 12 in accordance with the following:

1.   (currently amended) A processing system comprising:
a timer; and
a control unit monitoring a button for instructing an execution of ~~an image photographing process~~ taking a photograph of an image, detecting depression of the button, starting up said timer if said button is depressed continuously for a first predetermined period of time or longer after detecting the depression of the button, and ~~executing the image photographing process~~ taking the photograph of the image after said timer has counted a second predetermined period of time.

2.   (currently amended) A processing system according to claim 1, wherein said control unit, when a depressing time of said button is less than the first predetermined period of time, ~~executes the image photographing process~~takes the photograph of the image immediately after releasing said button from being depressed.

3.   (original) A processing system according to claim 1, wherein said button is provided on a connectable/disconnectable image acquisition device.

4.   (original) A processing system according to claim 1, wherein said button is an object displayed on a display device.

5.   (currently amended) A processing system comprising:
a module detecting a depressing time of a button instructing an ~~execution of an image photographing process~~ taking a photograph of an image; and
a module changing an interval from a timing of releasing said button to a timing of ~~executing the image photographing process~~ taking the photograph of the image after releasing said button from being depressed according to a length of the depressing time of said button.

6.   (currently amended) An image photographing system comprising:

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a button instructing an execution of ~~an image photographing process~~ taking a photograph of an image;

a control unit monitoring a depression of said button; and

a timer,

wherein said control unit starts up said timer by setting a first count time upon detecting the depression of said button, and starts up said timer by further setting a second count time when the first count time has elapsed before the depressed button is released, and

~~the image photographing process is executed~~taking the photograph of the image after the second count time has elapsed.

7.	(currently amended) An image photographing system according to claim 6, wherein ~~the image photographing process is executed~~ taking the photograph of the image immediately when the depressed button is released before the first count time elapses.

8.	(currently amended) A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising:

detecting a depression of a button for instructing to ~~execute an image photographing process~~take a photograph of an image;

starting up a timer by setting a first count time after detecting the depression of said button;

detecting a release of said button;

starting up said timer by further setting a second count time when the first count time elapses before said depressed button is released; and

~~executing the image photographing process~~ taking the photograph of the image after the second count time has elapsed.

9.	(currently amended) A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program according to claim 8, of instructions executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising a step of ~~executing the image photographing process~~taking the photograph of the image immediately when said depressed button is released before the first count time elapses.

10.	(currently amended) A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps comprising:

displaying, on a display device, a button of which a depression is detectable;

detecting a depression of said button;

starting up a timer by setting a first count time after detecting the depression of said button;

detecting a release of said button;

starting up said timer by further setting a second count time when the first count time elapses before said depressed button is released; and

~~executing the image photographing process~~ taking a photograph of an image after the second count time has elapsed.

11.   (currently amended) A storage medium readable by a machine tangible embodying a program according to claim 10, of instructions executable by the machine, the method steps further comprising a step of ~~executing the image photographing process~~ taking the photograph of the image immediately when said depressed button is released before the first count time elapses.

12.   (new) An apparatus comprising:

a timer to count first and second predetermined time periods; and

a control unit monitoring a button for capturing a image photograph, the control unit detecting depression of the button, starting up the timer when the button is depressed continuously for the first predetermined time period or longer after detecting the depression of the button, and capturing the image photograph after the timer has counted the second predetermined time period.